AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. **(canceled)**
2. **(canceled)**
3. **(canceled)**
4. **(canceled)**
5. **(canceled)**
6. **(canceled)**
7. **(canceled)**

8. **(currently amended)** A multi-cell Li-ion or Li-ion polymer battery, comprised of:

a plurality of generally planar cell sections, each cell section having at least one flat, metallic current collector tab extending therefrom, said cell sections being stacked one on another to form a cell body having a planar upper surface and a planar lower surface;

a plurality of said current collector tabs being aligned in spaced-apart relationship between said upper planar surface and said lower planar surface, and extending from one side of said cell body, each of said tabs having a free end and an intermediate portion; and

a tab weldment joining the free ends of said tabs but leaving said intermediate portions of said tabs unattached to each other, said tabs being welded together when said tabs are stacked together at a location offset from said cell body~~, such that when said tabs are~~ and being folded into a generally U-shaped configuration about an axis within the surfaces of the cell body so as to minimize stress exerted on the current collectors and tabs during folding, said unattached intermediate portions forming a smooth layered, generally U-shaped structure with said tab weldment disposed adjacent said one side of said cell body.

9. **(currently amended)** A multi-cell Li-ion or Li-ion polymer battery as defined in claim 8, further comprising a lead ~~attached to said tab weldment~~ comprised of a thin, metallic strip welded to said tab weldment, wherein two layers of said metallic strip are disposed between said tab weldment and said one side of said cell body when said tab weldment is folded into said generally U-shaped configuration.

10. **(canceled)**

11. **(canceled)**

12. **(currently amended)** A multi-cell Li-ion or Li-ion polymer battery as defined in claim [[11]] 9, wherein said metallic strip is wrapped around said tab weldment.

13. **(original)** A multi-cell Li-ion or Li-ion polymer battery as defined in claim 12, wherein said collector tabs are comprised of metallic mesh and said lead is a strip of solid metal having a width approximately equal to the width of said current collector tabs.

14. **(currently amended)** A multi-cell Li-ion or Li-ion polymer battery, comprised of:

a plurality of generally planar cathode sections each having at least one flat, metallic cathode current collector tab extending therefrom;

a plurality of generally planar anode sections each having at least one flat, metallic anode current collector tab extending therefrom, said cathode and anode sections being stacked together to form a cell body;

a plurality of said cathode current collector tabs being aligned and extending from one side of said cell body, each of said cathode current collector tabs having a free end and an intermediate portion;

a plurality of said anode current collector tabs being aligned and extending from one side of said cell body, each of said anode current collector tabs having a free end and an intermediate portion;

a cathode tab weldment joining the free ends of said cathode current collector tabs but leaving said intermediate portions of said cathode current collector tabs unattached to each other, said cathode current collector tabs being welded together when said cathode current collector tabs are stacked together at a location offset from said cell body~~, such that when~~ and said cathode current collector tabs [[are]] being folded into a generally U-shaped configuration about an axis within the surfaces of the cell body so as to minimize stress exerted on the current collectors and tabs during folding, said unattached intermediate portions forming a smooth layered, generally U-shaped structure with said cathode tab weldment disposed adjacent said one side of said cell body; and

an anode tab weldment joining the free ends of said anode current collector tabs but leaving said intermediate portions of said anode current collector tabs unattached to each other, said anode current collector tabs welded together when said anode current collector tabs are stacked together at a location offset from said cell body, such that said anode current collector tabs are folded into a generally U-shaped configuration with said unattached intermediate portions forming a smooth layered, generally U-shaped structure with said anode tab weldment disposed adjacent said one side of said cell body.

15. **(currently amended)** A multi-cell Li-ion or Li-ion polymer battery as defined in claim 14, further comprising a strip of metal attached to said cathode tab weldment to form a cathode battery lead, wherein two layers of said metal strip are disposed between said cathode tab weldment and said one side of said cell body when said tab weldment is folded into said generally U-shaped configuration.

16. **(currently amended)** A multi-cell Li-ion or Li-ion polymer battery as defined in claim 15, further comprising a strip of metal attached to said anode tab weldment to form an anode battery lead, wherein two layers of said metal strip are disposed between said anode tab

weldment and said one side of said cell body when said tab weldment is folded into said generally U-shaped configuration.

17. **(original)** A multi-cell Li-ion or Li-ion polymer battery as defined in claim 16, wherein said cathode current collector tabs and said anode current collector tabs are formed of a metal mesh selected from the group consisting of copper and aluminum and said metal strips are selected from the group consisting of copper, aluminum and nickel.

18. **(canceled)**